

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masaru TAKEUCHI et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: January 30, 2004

Docket No.: 118198

For: FLAT PLATEN AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. (Ref. 1)
- ☒ 3. An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto. (Ref. 1)
- ☒ 4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 1.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 30, 2004

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| Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) | | US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 118198 | | APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | APPLICANTS Masaru TAKEUCHI et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE January 30, 2004 | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | |
| | 1 | JP A 2000-109243 w/ abst & trans | 04/18/2000 | Japan | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |

Date: January 30, 2004